(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Chief of Air Staff has not suggested downsizing of the Indian Air Force. Upgrading of the Indian Air Force is a continuous and dynamic process.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MBT Arjun

591. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that Army has directed Armoured Corps to compare Arjun with Russian-made T-90;

(b) if so, whether the tests are over; and

(c) the number of Arjun MBTs inducted so far into the Indian Army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Army has directed that newly manufactured Arjun Tanks be put through the field trials to ensure quality in manufacture for operationalisation.

(b) No, Sir. The tests are yet to be undertaken.

(c) Apart from 15 pre-production, five tanks from production lot are in the process of being handed over to field formations after the "Joint Resident Inspection (JRI)."

Increase in infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir

592. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is improving;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the infiltration in the valley has increased since January, 2004; and

(d) if so, the reasons for improvement of the situation in the valley?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRI PRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of terrorism related figures in Jammu and Kashmir are given below:—

	2003(upto Oct., 31st)	2004 (upto Oct., 31st)
No. of incidents	2887	2223
Civilian killed	703	624
SFs killed	277	239

(c)No, Sir.

(d) The reasons for improvement of the situation in the valley include:-

(i) Pro-active tackling of cross border terrorism by Security Forces;

(ii) Accelerating economic development and redressal of public grievances;

(iii) Being open to initiate a dialogue process with ail groups in J & K and especially, those who eschew the path of violence and express a desire for such talks; and

(iv) Deepening of political process through elections at all levels and encouraging political debate within J&K.

These initiatives are supported by other efforts made in the diplomatic and media spheres.

Atrocities on women

593. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cases of atrocities on women are on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of cases reported during the last three years; and

(c) the details of action taken to prevent such incidents?